



Timberbank Times

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Principal's Message

We cannot believe that we are already in December and that the Winter Break is just around the corner.

Thank you to all of our parents/guardians who were able to come in and discuss your child(ren)'s progress during our parent/teacher interviews. This is such an important part of the partnership needed to ensure every child's success. On behalf of the staff, thank you for working with us so that all of our students are achieving to the best of their abilities.

Our school continues to be a very busy place! Our Ecoteam continues to meet and look at ways to promote the various Eco initiatives around our school. Basketball houseleague is taking place at recess every Thursday. Along with these activities, our "Young Women on the Move" are also meeting each Thursday at lunch.

I am always so pleased walking through our classrooms to see the learning that is happening and how engaged our students are in their learning. Our grade 6s are preparing for a unique outdoor learning experience as they will be visiting Camp Kearney from December 13th to 16th. This is an experience that they will never forget.

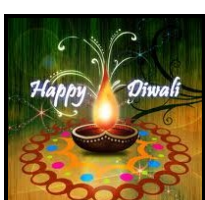
As part of the Timberbank tradition, we will be having our annual food drive collection for Agincourt Community Services. Please feel free to send in any non-perishable food items with your child. You may also bring items to our "Seasonal Celebrations" - Winter Concert on Thursday, December 12th at 6:30pm at our school. We hope that you will be able to come to our concert to enjoy the various classroom presentations.

We hope that you all have a great holiday break, celebrating with family and friends. Wishing you all a healthy and prosperous 2014!

Mrs. Anna Epitropou

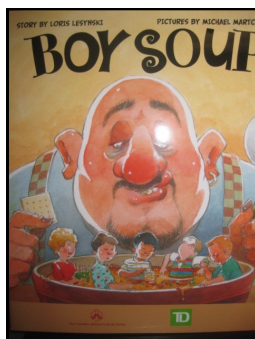
Upcoming Dates

Dec. 9	Grade 6s visit Stephen Leacock CI in the morning
Dec. 10	Trustee Sotiropoulos visits Timberbank in the afternoon
Dec. 12	"Seasonal Celebrations" - Winter Concert @ 6:30pm in the gym
Dec. 13, 16, 17	Dental Screening of all students
Dec. 13-16	Grade 6 students visit Camp Kearney - Outdoor Education Centre
Dec. 18	Staff vs. Student Volleyball Game at 2:15pm
Dec. 19	Last Day of School / Pyjama Day / Caroling at 9am in the gym
Dec. 20	PA Day - NO SCHOOL
Jan. 6	First Day Back after the Holidays
Jan. 13	TFSS presentation for Junior Classes / Parent School Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm
Jan. 17	Financial Literacy Presentation for our Junior Classes
Jan. 21	"Jack and the Giant" - Character Education Presentation for all students in the pm
Jan. 24	P.A. Day - no school for students
Jan. 27	"Movie Night" after school in the gym
Jan. 30	"On TRACK" and Lunar New Year Assembly @ 12:45pm - Red Day



Library News

In November, the TD Grade 1 give away book *Boy Soup* arrived at Timberbank! All students in grade 1 received a free copy of this book to keep and enjoy at home. Please use this as an opportunity for a celebration of reading with your child.



And don't forget to continue submitting your "Just Read It" submissions on-line at:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/libraries/cat.asp?schoolNo=10>



Congratulations to Shevani. This month's winner!!

ECO News

Eco Club - Monitoring

By: Vithushika and Kaden



We talked about Energy Monitoring and how we should let the sunlight in as much as possible. We should clear all the vents and keep the heat in, which means open the blinds in the morning and close them at the end of the day.

We keep all the information on a chart. We also put "Red" if we forgot to do it, "Yellow" if only half the time and "Green" if it was done all the time. We fill in the chart when we do our agendas. We do "Keep the Light in" in the morning.

Congratulations to Ms Namasivayam's class for being our "Walking Wednesdays" winner for the most participation. Don't forget to do something good for the environment and healthy for yourself: Walk/Bike to school on Wednesdays!

**SCHOOL COUNCIL'S CORNER**

Parents, Guardians and Caregivers: Watch this space every month to find out what is new from your school council and learn about ways that you can get involved.

WHY SHOULD YOU CONSIDER GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL COUNCIL?

Here are the MOST POPULAR REASONS given by current Timberbank School Council participants when asked why they are involved:

1. To get to know the community
2. To support my child
3. To be informed of my school's environment
4. To help the students and staff
5. To donate my professional skills
6. To contribute to our school

HAVE YOUR SAY! ANSWER SCHOOL COUNCIL'S QUESTION OF THE MONTH?

Have a say in an upcoming decision for your school. School Council is applying for a Parent Outreach Grant to enable our school to host an event for parents and/or students focused on "health and wellness". Vote on the options below and help decide the theme.

Options:

1. Anti-bullying/Cyber Bullying Awareness Program
2. Family Games Night: Yoga, Soccer Skills, Board Games etc.
3. For Parents: How You Can Help Your Kids Succeed in School
4. Healthy Eating/Living Theme

Submit your vote via email at

timberbank.publicschool@yahoo.ca

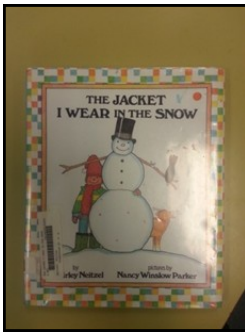
NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING:

Join us on Monday, January 13th at 6:30pm in the Library.



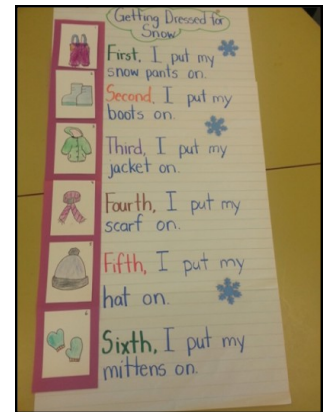
Remembering!

On November 11, 2013 we held our Remembrance Day ceremony in our gymnasium. Our Grade 5 and 6 students paid their respects by singing "Dona Nobis Pacem" while our the grade 4s created various tableaux to go along with the music. Our ESL students also recited poems about Remembrance Day. At Timberbank, we value and cherish the freedom and peace that we are fortunate to have in our country because of the sacrifices made by many soldiers.



BRRR~ IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!

In our Kindergarten classes, we have been learning about how to prepare for our Canadian Winter. We read the book, "*The Jacket I wear in the Snow*" written by Shirley Neitzel. We learned that it is important to dress up warmly when we go outside in the cold weather. This is the order that we will use to get dressed before outdoor play.



Gentle Reminders:

- **Cars dropping off** students need to pay attention to the crosswalk and clearly posted signage for NO Stopping. **Please do not do U-turns on Timberbank.** Take a moment and move down the street and make your turns safely. This continues to be a significant safety concern. You are welcome to drive into the parking lot, drop off your child and continue on. Do NOT block the driveway! Please be mindful of your driving around all school neighbourhoods. We want our students and community to be SAFE!!!
- **Electronic games/devices** should not be brought to school and cell phones, if necessary, must be turned off, and secured in your child's backpack. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.
- **Yard Supervision** times are 8:30 to 8:45 am / 12: 25 to 12:35 pm / 3:25 to 3:40 pm. Students should not arrive earlier unless they are taking part in a supervised event. Students who go home for lunch are asked to return no earlier than 12:30 pm.
- **Playscape:** Our playscape is a very popular place before, during, and after school. If your children are playing on the equipment before and after school, please make certain that they are being supervised.
- **Hats, water and appropriate footwear** are recommended for play and gym class. All students are asked to have a pair of indoor and outdoor shoes. With the cold weather arriving, it is very important that you dress for the weather!!



Reminder!

- **Flu Season** is upon us. Several Flu Clinics are scheduled. For more information about the flu call Service Ontario at 1-877-844-1944.

- When reporting your child's absence, if they have been diagnosed with a communicable (contagious) illness, it is VERY important that we are notified in the office (e.g. Chickenpox).

Staying “On T.R.A.C.K.”

At Timberbank, we believe in having our students stay on track. This recognition program raises awareness of each student's contribution to personal and social responsibility. Our staff and students focus on character development, highlighting the positive contributions and actions of all members of the Timberbank School Community. Through our regular assemblies these qualities of character will be recognized and honoured.

Congratulations to the following students for being recognized for their “Respect and Responsibility” and staying “On T.R.A.C.K.”.

Ms Lo's class: Joseph, Justin, Laiba and Lina

Mrs. Jeung's class: Allan, Letisha, Nadia and Saba

Mrs. Montgomery's class: Alessia, Berlin and Matthew

Ms Mourad's class: Arusan, Joey and Yu Kai

Ms Namasivayam's class: Ashvina, Lukas and Manoah

Ms Boulos's class: Ava, Kishan and Zainab

Mrs. Spirou's class: Disha, Patrick and Sophia

Ms Cheng/Mr. Mirshahi's class: Anjana, Jenny and Nikkol

Ms Persaud's class: Bill, Kaden, Kashwine, Nancy and Vithushika

Mrs. Corrieri's class: Andrew, Elbert, Nancy, Victoria and Zeta

Mr. O'Connor's class: Alexandra, Andrew, Betty, Julia, Matthew and Nicole

The "On TRACK" students had lunch with Mrs. Epitropou and we talked about how fortunate we are to be living in such a great country. This is what they said that they were thankful for:

"the teachers who teach us".

"the clean water that we have".

"our freedom and peace".

"the many books in our library".

"our new supplies like our laptops".

"the safe neighborhood and environment".

"our amazing staff".

"our extra-curricular activities".

"our homes and shelter".

"the food our parents provide us".



TDSB Fit For Life Program - Monthly Newsletter

This was shared in this month's newsletter:

"If you are playing a game and see someone observing, invite him or her to play and try and join in. It is nice to feel included."



Timberbank's "Seasonal Celebrations"



**Thursday, December 12th @
6:30pm - Don't forget to bring
a non-perishable food item
for our Holiday Food Drive
(e.g. canned items, pasta)**



**Purchase your "Rudolph Red Nose" for \$3
and support Toronto
Foundation for Student
Success - Flyer to pur-
chase "noses" will be
sent home on Dec. 6th.
All "noses" will be dis-
tributed to students on
December 19th for our
caroling in the morning.**

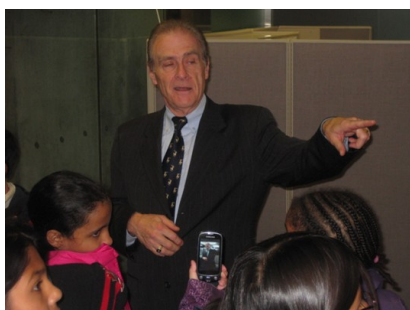


Ms Corrieri's Class Trip to Queen's Park and City Hall and a Visit from Special Guest: Hon. MP Jim Karygiannis

On Thursday November 28/2013, Timberbank's Ms Corrieri's grade 5 class went on a trip to visit Queen's Park and walk to City Hall on the way to learn about government responsibilities and their roles as an MPP and a City Councillor. At approximately 9:00 a.m., Ms Corrieri's class left school on a school bus and were on their way to Queen's Park. At about 9:50 a.m., Ms Corrieri's class arrived at Queen's Park to meet Soo Wong, the MPP (Member of Provincial Parliament) of our community so she can see us and tell us some interesting facts about the laws and what it means being an MPP. Soo Wong was very pleased by our questions and also invited us to watch on what they call "Question period" where they have liberals and oppositions. After the "Question Period" we got to say goodbye to Soo Wong and thank her for being with us and that it was a fantastic experience.



After our visit to Queen's Park, we walked all the way to City Hall for approximately 30 minutes to visit City Councillor/Deputy Mayor, Norm Kelly. After the long walk, Ms Corrieri's class finally made it to City Hall. By the time they arrived, it was about 11:30 when we had lunch. After lunch they finally go to meet Norm Kelly. Norm



Kelly gave Ms Corrieri's class a tour of City Hall; we saw the deputy mayor office of Norm Kelly and his workers and told us what it feels like about being a city councillor and the deputy mayor. Ms Corrieri's class did not think that they would get a tour, but we got to see the councillor chamber, where the city councillors and the mayor discuss and have debates and talk about municipal rules and laws.

Norm Kelly was very pleased to have us visit him and learn about him. Like Norm Kelly says, "Everybody still needs to learn". It was a fantastic trip for the Grade 5s to visit and see Soo Wong and Councillor Kelly, and to learn from them and learn fascinating facts about government responsibilities. After the wonderful trip to Queen's Park and City Hall, Ms Corrieri's grade 5 class finally went back to school and couldn't wait to tell everybody how it was.

On Friday, November 29/2013, Timberbank's Grade 5 class had a visit from the Hon. MP Jim Karygiannis who works in Canada's Federal Government. He talked to them about the debates, how to start a campaign, and what to do to get nominated. Also MP Karygiannis taught them what to do in a "Question Period". A time where there are liberals and the oppositions who argue to try to defeat the others bills or ideas and how to defend their own team.

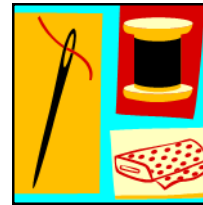
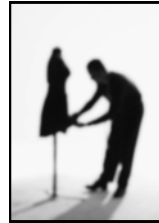
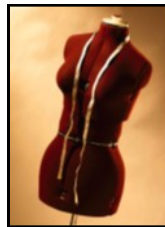


*Jim Karygiannis told the grade 5s about a challenge with a reward. The entire class will write an essay, and the topic will be decided by the teacher. After the essays are submitted to the teacher, the teacher will choose 2 lucky students for them to go... **on a trip to Ottawa!** They will visit the House of Commons and maybe meet Stephen Harper! How exciting is that! Everybody enjoyed the special visit from Jim Karygiannis and thanked him for the wonderful experience!*

Written by : Nancy L.

Calling for Seamstresses and Tailors

The Concert Committee at Timberbank School is recruiting volunteers to help sew some costumes together for the upcoming performances. We invite any interested parents and relatives who can use a sewing machine to join the Concert Committee in creating the costumes. We will begin to sew the costumes in early January. If interested, please contact Ms Chan at Timberbank by dropping off a note to the office or giving her a call at (416) 396-6605. Thanks to all generous patrons in advance.

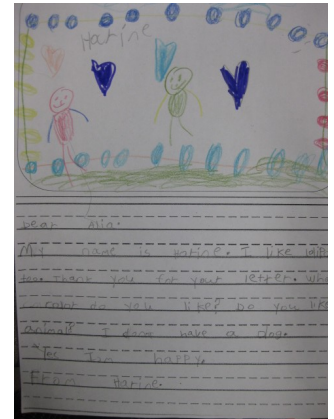


Penpals: Ms Namasivayam's Grade 1s and 2s have been so happy to be writing to their penpals in the United States and have been very excited to receive letters from them also. Here is Harine's letter:

Dear Alia,

My name is Harine. I like lollipops too. Thank you for your letter. What colour do you like? Do you like animals? I don't have a dog. Yes, I am happy.

From, Harine



Our New Friends in Jordan

We would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Kelly (Equal Opportunity Initiative) for organizing a live chat between our Grade 6s and students in Jordan who are English Language Learners. The grade 6 students who were able to be here early in the morning on October 7th and 10th had a chance to speak live with our new friends.

The students from Jordan had a chance to practice their English and our students learned a great deal about Jordan and how education and life differ from Canada. We also found out that there are some similarities, especially

around pop culture and music! We are looking forward to our next chat!!

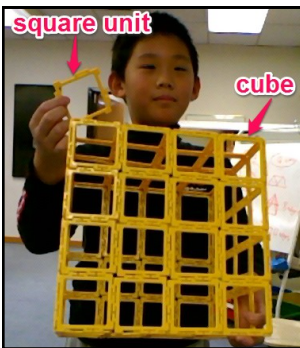




Saying Goodbye... We would like to wish both Mrs. Spirou and Mrs. Montgomery all the best as they prepare to have a new "little" one join their family. We hope that they will be back to visit!!



Learning and Having Fun @ Timberbank!



A Special Day for All Grade 5s in ER19!



On December 5th, all of the grade 5 students in ER19 were involved in a unique opportunity that focusses around our "Anti-bullying" initiatives and promotes caring and safe learning environments for all. Through the hard work of the ER19 committee, our students had a chance to go to Stephen Leacock CI and take part in a variety of activities along with the grade 5s from Highland Heights, Tam O'Shanter and Pauline Johnson. The students had an amazing time meeting new friends and learning about the importance of stopping all types of bullying!



Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week - November 18th to 22nd, 2013

At Timberbank, our motto is "Timberbank is Teamwork". We are proud because we believe in a "Bully-Free" school where all of our students have a goal of being "ON TRACK" every day and not just during this awareness week. We remember that being "ON TRACK" means that we promise to always make sure that Timberbank is a caring and safe place where everyone can learn, play and have fun!!

To celebrate this week, we had a special group called "Dynamix" come and work with all of our students on various positive team-building activities. The students worked together in groups to accomplish different challenges. It was a great day!!

***Our Community Liaison Officer Visits***

Thanks to Officer Burns who came on Thursday, November 21st and spoke to every single class about various topics such as: Elmer's Safety Patrol; Personal Safety; Community Helpers; Internet Safety; Bullying; and the Law.

